

03500.014646

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
: Examiner: A. Amari  
TAKEHIKO NAKAI )  
: Group Art Unit: 2872  
Application No.: 09/626,738 )  
:  
Filed: July 26, 2000 )  
:  
For: DIFFRACTION OPTICAL )  
ELEMENT : April 6, 2004

**Mail Stop RCE**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are also enclosed.

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Application No. 11-84118 corresponds to U.S. Patent No. 6,624,943 and U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0036012, both of which are also enclosed. The concise explanation of the relevance of this non-English language document is found in the attached English Abstract thereof. In addition, enclosed is a copy of a Japanese

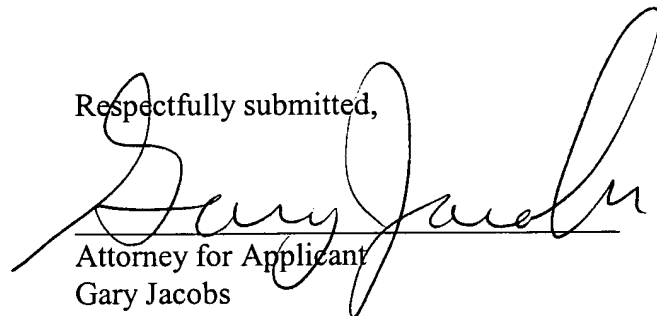
Office Action, issued in a Japanese counterpart application, that cites Japanese Laid-Open Patent Application No. 11-84118. Below is a translation of the part of that Japanese Office Action providing the second reason that Claim 14 is rejected in the Japanese Application.

With regard to Claim 14, in reference 1 (No. 11-84118), diffraction grating is formed on a plane. However, since it is well known to form diffraction grating on a curved surface, it is easy for a person who has skill in the art to make the present invention in claim 14 by arranging diffraction grating in the reference 1 on a curved surface.

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

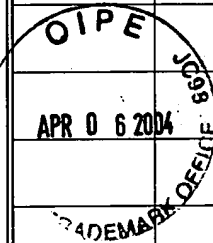
Respectfully submitted,



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FORM PTO 1449 (modified)  U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary)  Date Submitted: April 5, 2004				ATTY DOCKET NO. <b>03500.014646</b>		APPLICATION NO. <b>09/626,738</b>	
				APPLICANT <b>TAKEHIKO NAKAI</b>			
				FILING DATE <b>July 26, 2000</b>		GROUP <b>2872</b>	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		6,624,943	9/23/03	Nakai, et al.			
		2001/0036012	11/01/01	Nakai, et al.			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
		11-84118	3/26/99	Japan			Abstract
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Sheet 1 of 1

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